

Why Is It Important to Understand Mathematics?

A Look into the Reasons
Students All over the World Learn Algebra.

Do You Need to Understand Mathematics... To Make Sense of History?

- According to Wikipedia: (8-19-07)

History is the study of the past, focused on human activity and leading up to the present day.[1]

- How can we make sense of the past, if we don't know when events took place?

Do You Need to Understand Mathematics... To Make Sense of Science?

- According to Wikipedia: (8-19-07)

Science (from the Latin scientia, 'knowledge') is a system of acquiring knowledge based on the scientific method, as well as the organized body of knowledge gained through such research.[1][2]

- How can we perform experiments, collect data, and analyze results if we don't understand numbers?

Do You Need to Understand Mathematics... To Go to College

- Most, if not all U.S. higher education institutions require at least three years of high school mathematics.

And

- As if college wasn't hard enough, then you have to pay for it.

- The projected price of attending Harvard for 2007-2008...

Tuition and fees: \$34,998

Room/board: \$10,622

TOTAL.....**\$45,620**

- The projected price of attending UMSL for 2007-2008...

Tuition and fees: \$8,264 (in-state)

Room/board: \$7,394

TOTAL.....**\$12,658**

Do You Know How Much College is Going to Cost
For You?

If you have been paying to the news lately lately, math has been all over it.



Consumer Handbook on
**Adjustable Rate
Mortgages (ARM)**



We study mathematics to help make sense of the world.

To be successful in a global economy, understanding mathematics is a necessity.

Your first assignment of the year

Due Date
Friday

The U.S. is approaching another Presidential Election. The candidates have already started debating some key issues that could make or break their campaign.

Your assignment is visit both of the largest U.S. political party websites:

- <http://www.gop.com/>
republican party
- <http://www.democrats.org/>
democratic party

Your first assignment of the year

At each website...

- Find one major issue that might be debated this upcoming election year.

IN TWO SEPARATE TYPED DOCUMENTS

- Describe the issue that might be debated (no more than three sentences)
- Then, write a separate paragraph describing how mathematics is involved in the debate.